

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koji SHIMAZAWA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: April 21, 2004

Docket No.: 119514

For: MAGNETORESISTIVE EFFECTIVE ELEMENT, THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD,  
MAGNETIC HEAD DEVICE AND MAGNETIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING  
DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language references 2-4 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

- 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 2-4 are attached hereto.
- 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 2-4.
- 6. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 2.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 21, 2004

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<b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION</b> Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)			US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 119514		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)								
			APPLICANTS Koji SHIMAZAWA et al.					
			FILING DATE April 21, 2004					
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	US 2002-0135947 A1	09/26/2002	Aoki et al.				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	2	JP A 11-175928 w/abstr. + trans.	07/02/1999	Japan				
	3	JP A 2002-280643 w/abstr. + trans.	09/27/2002	Japan				
	4	JP A 11-25431 w/abstr. + trans.	01/29/1999	Japan				
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>								
<b>EXAMINER</b>							<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								